

Justice Facility Dog Program

Fact Sheet for the Community

Guide Dogs WA provides Guide Dogs, Assistance Dogs and Facility Dogs for people in Western Australia. Facility Dogs are highly trained dogs that complete specific tasks in a place or business.

Winston is a Facility Dog from Guide Dogs WA. He is here to support people when they are at court. He is very friendly and loves people.

Winston's Role

When Winston is walking through the waiting areas, you can ask the handler if you can pat and talk to him. If you don't want Winston to come near you, you can tell a security officer or other staff member. Winston's handler will be with him at all times.

Winston is allowed to be in waiting areas of the Perth Children's Court as part of his role as a Facility Dog. He is not allowed to go other places without permission.

Guidelines for Interacting with Winston

- Always introduce yourself to Winston and allow him to come to you.
- Stroke or pat Winston gently on his chest or side.
- If he wants to move away, please don't force or restrain Winston.
- Winston will respond well if you call his name and have a gentle tone.
- Please be considerate to not overwhelm or overcrowd Winston, everyone will get an opportunity to see him. A general rule is one person at a time.
- Always listen to instruction from Winston's handler.
- Winston is not allowed to jump up or lick people or objects.
- Don't feed Winston or eat near him.
- Don't share images of Winston on social media.

Community Enquiries

Community enquiries on the Justice Facility Dog Program can be made to Clerk of the Court, Children's Court of Western Australia, Perth on (08) 9218 4809 or childrenscourt@justice.wa.gov.au.

Guide Dogs WA is a member of Assistance Dogs International and the International Guide Dog Federation. For more information visit www.guidedogswa.com.au.

